Marine Wildlife Observation Report
U.S. Geological Survey Research Cruise 2016-647-FA
Northern Monterey Bay, California
May 31 and June 1, 2016

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USGS

Summary

On May 31 and June 1, 2016, the Pacific Coastal and Marine Science Center of the U.S Geological Survey (USGS) conducted a high resolution swath survey collecting bathymetry and acoustic-backscatter data in northern Monterey Bay offshore Santa Cruz. The work was conducted aboard the 36-foot USGS Research Vessel *Parke Snavely* out of the Santa Cruz harbor. The survey was the eighth in a series of surveys that will take place over the 2014-2016 winter seasons to map changes in Ripple Scour Depressions (RSDs) found in Northern Monterey Bay. Davis et al. (2013) showed that there are more than 6,000 RSDs along California and that they cover just under 4% of California's State waters, and Hallenbeck et al. (2012) demonstrated that RSDs are important habitats for many important benthic species along California. Despite their widespread extent in California's State waters and their ecological significance, little is understood about their formation and persistence, and thus how they may be impacted by natural phenomena (storms) and potential future impacts (sea floor cables, trawling, climate change, etc.). This study will begin to map how these seafloor features change over time. This research effort and data acquisition has already received authorization through the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary under permit **MBNMS-2014-029-1A.**

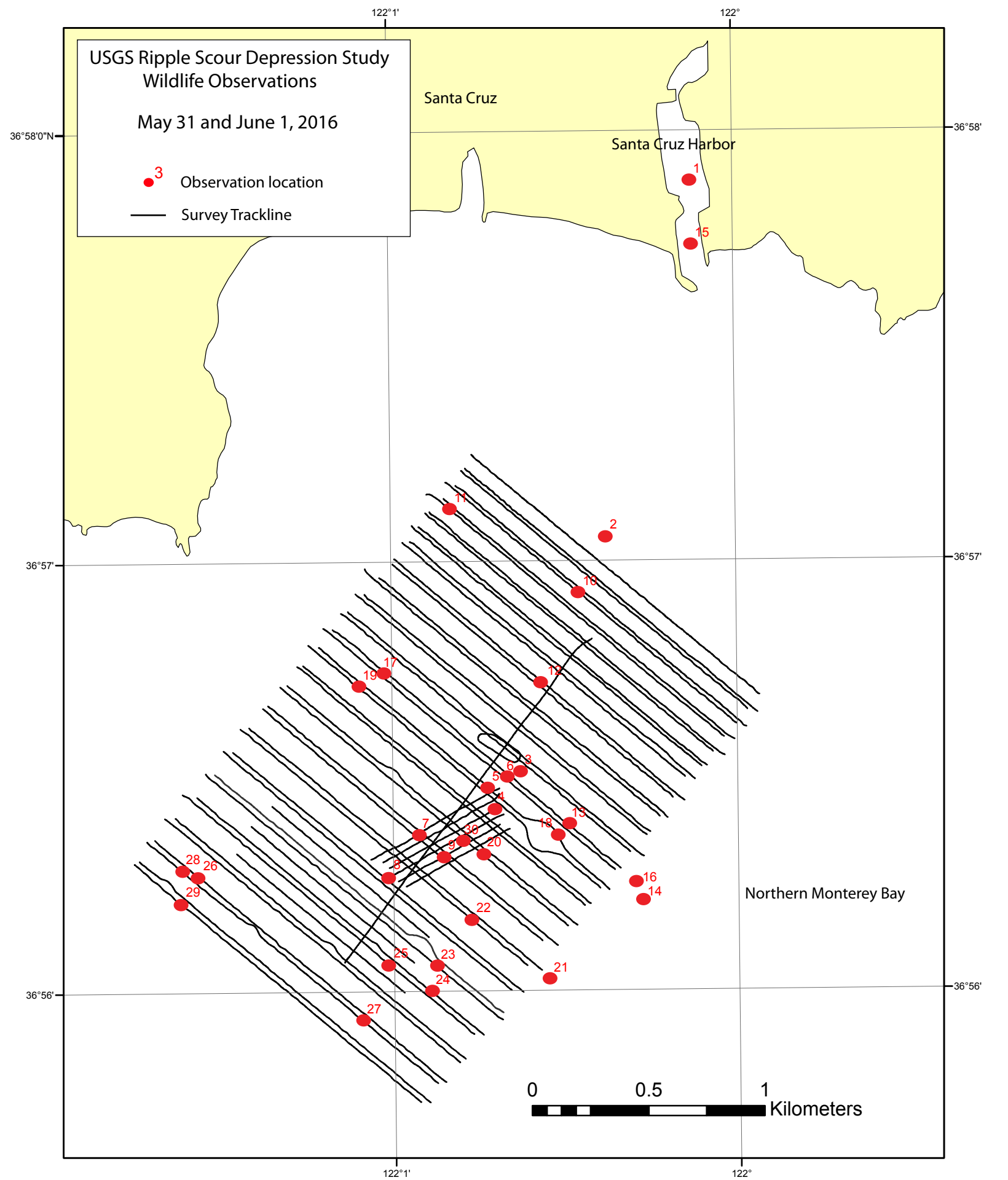
The Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA) requires that certain procedures be followed when using acoustic sources to collect bathymetry and backscatter data to minimize the impact on marine mammals. To comply with the MMPA, the USGS applied for and received a Letter of Concurrence (LOC) from the National Marine Fisheries Service, describing the work and mitigation protocols to be followed. It was determined that the operating frequency of the sonar system (234.5 kHz) is above the cutoff hearing threshold for marine mammals, therefore the CSLC determined that the observance of a safety zone is not a requirement for this survey (personal communications, K. Keen, CSLC). Also, only one marine wildlife monitor (MWO) was required.

The USGS research cruise 2016-647-FA took place on May 31 and June 1, 2016. All operations, including transits and surveying took place during daylight hours (0730 – 1800). Mapping was completed using a hull-mounted 234-kHz SEA SWATHPlus phase-differencing side-scan sonar at survey speeds of 4-6 knots. While at sea, 21 sightings of wildlife were recorded including sea lions, otters, and porpoises. During all wildlife sightings the crew did not observe any abnormal behavior and there was no risk of collision. Figure 1 shows the locations of the sightings and other operational notes in relation to the survey track lines. Table 1 summarizes the date, time, location, and wildlife observation.

References

Hallenbeck, T.R., Kvitek, R., Lindholm, J., 2012. Rippled scour depressions add ecologically significant heterogeneity to soft sediment habitats on the continental shelf. *Marine Ecology Progress Series*, v. 468, p. 119–133.

Davis, A., Muller, C., Kvitek, R., Storlazzi, C.D., and Phillips, E., 2013. Distribution and abundance of rippled scour depressions along the California coast. *Continental Shelf Research*, v. 69, p. 88-100.


USGS Ripple Scour Depression Study
Wildlife Observations
May 31 and June 1, 2016
Observation location
Survey Trackline
Santa Cruz
Santa Cruz Harbor
Northern Monterey Bay
122°1'
122°
36°58'0"N
36°58'
36°57'
36°56'
0
0.5
1
Kilometers

longitude	latitude	date	time	observation#	observation
-122.0021105	36.96471717	05/31/2016	15:09:15	1	leave dock
-122.0063062	36.95094467	05/31/2016	15:17:46	2	transiting survey area looking for fishing gear
-122.010523	36.941854	05/31/2016	15:21:51	3	sea lion, 30-m distance, port side, towards the south, swimming east
-122.0118603	36.9404315	05/31/2016	15:26:52	4	one fishing buoy outside of survey area
-122.0121243	36.94122167	05/31/2016	15:29:00	5	sea lion, 40-m distance, starborad side, toward the southeast, smimming east
-122.0114088	36.94161167	05/31/2016	15:32:13	6	sonar on, begin ramp-up
-122.0155255	36.93942033	05/31/2016	15:54:07	7	sea lion, 50-m distance, port side, towards the south, eating
-122.0169333	36.93781033	05/31/2016	16:06:13	8	sea lion, 40-m distance, starboard side, swimming west
-122.0142798	36.93856217	05/31/2016	16:14:53	9	sea lion, 50-m distance, port side, towards the south, stationary
-122.0076462	36.94877567	05/31/2016	18:13:13	10	sea lion, 30-m distance, starboard bow, swimming south, towards the northeast
-122.013825	36.95205167	05/31/2016	18:41:33	11	4-5 sea lions, 100-m distance, port side, toward the northwest, swimming south
-122.0094165	36.94530567	05/31/2016	19:59:38	12	sea lion, 20-m distance, port side, toward the northeast, swimming north
-122.0082278	36.9397835	05/31/2016	21:44:48	13	4-5 sea lions on 1-mile buoy, out of water, 100-m distance towards the southwest
-122.0046685	36.93708267	05/31/2016	21:50:24	14	sonar off
-122.0020582	36.96223817	06/01/2016	14:46:22	15	leave dock
-122.0049128	36.93726017	06/01/2016	15:02:31	16	sonar on, begin ramp-up
-122.017325	36.94567467	06/01/2016	15:15:25	17	do not see any fishing gear
-122.0087678	36.93939217	06/01/2016	15:26:04	18	3-4 sea lions on 1-mile buoy, out of water, 2 in water, 50-m distance, stareboard side, to the southwest
-122.0183333	36.945181	06/01/2016	15:36:40	19	sea lion, 30-m distance, port side, to the southwest, swimming east
-122.0123972	36.93865433	06/01/2016	16:17:21	20	sea lion, 50-m distance, to the southwest, swimming south
-122.0092342	36.9337855	06/01/2016	16:55:26	21	sea lion, 70-m distance, to the south, laying on surface
-122.0129495	36.93613017	06/01/2016	17:01:35	22	sea lion, 40-m distance, port side, to the southwest, swimming south
-122.014682	36.93432533	06/01/2016	17:43:56	23	sea lion, 30-m distance, off bow, to the south, laying on surface, Snavely making U-turn
-122.0149433	36.9333445	06/01/2016	17:58:46	24	otter, 40-m distance, port side, to the northeast, laying on surface
-122.0169633	36.93439433	06/01/2016	18:04:02	25	2 porpoises, 60-m distance, off bow, to the northwest, swimming southwest
-122.0261162	36.9378565	06/01/2016	18:31:51	26	porpoise, 50-m distance, off bow, toward the southeast, swimming west
-122.0182883	36.93224317	06/01/2016	18:42:22	27	sea lion, 40-m distance, off bow, to the northwest, swimming east
-122.0269497	36.93809783	06/01/2016	18:47:45	28	3 porpoises, 50-m distance, off bow, to the northwest, swimming west
-122.0269817	36.93682717	06/01/2016	19:12:13	29	Otter, 50m distance, off bow, towards nw, laying on surface
-122.0135035	36.93915633	06/01/2016	20:13:01	30	sonar off

Mitigation Measure (MM)	Location and Scope of Mitigation	Effectiveness Criteria	Monitoring or Reporting Action	Responsible Party	Timing	Implementation Date(s) and Initials
Air Quality and Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions (MND Section 3.3.3)						
MM AIR-1: Engine Tuning, Engine Certification, and Fuels. The following measures will be required to be implemented by all Permittees under the Offshore Geophysical Permit Program (OGPP), as applicable depending on the county offshore which a survey is being conducted. Pursuant to section 93118.5 of CARB's Airborne Toxic Control Measures, the Tier 2 engine requirement applies only to diesel-fueled vessels.	<u>All Counties</u>: Maintain all construction equipment in proper tune according to manufacturers' specifications; fuel all off-road and portable diesel-powered equipment with California Air Resources Board (CARB)-certified motor vehicle diesel fuel limiting sulfur content to 15 parts per million or less (CARB Diesel).	Daily emissions of criteria pollutants during survey activities are minimized.	Determine engine certification of vessel engines. Review engine emissions data to assess compliance, determine if changes in tuning or fuel are required.	OGPP permit holder and contract vessel operator; California State Lands Commission (CSLC) review of Final Monitoring Report.	Prior to, during, and after survey activities. Submit Final Monitoring Report after completion of survey activities.	5/6/16 JW
	<u>Los Angeles and Orange Counties</u>: Use vessel engines meeting CARB's Tier 2-certified engines or cleaner; the survey shall be operated such that daily NO_x emissions do not exceed 100 pounds based on engine certification emission factors. This can be accomplished with Tier 2 engines if daily fuel use is 585 gallons or less, and with Tier 3 engines if daily fuel use is 935 gallons or less.		Verify that Tier 2 or cleaner engines are being used. Calculate daily NO_x emissions to verify compliance with limitations.			
	<u>San Luis Obispo County</u>: Use vessel engines meeting CARB's Tier 2-certified engines or cleaner, accomplished with Tier 2 engines if daily fuel use is 585 gallons or less; all diesel equipment shall not idle for more than 5 minutes; engine use needed to maintain position in the water is not considered idling; diesel idling within 300 meters (1,000 feet) of sensitive receptors is not permitted; use alternatively fueled construction equipment on site where feasible, such as compressed natural gas, liquefied natural gas, propane or biodiesel.		Verify that Tier 2 or cleaner engines are being used. Inform vessel operator(s) of idling limitation. Investigate availability of alternative fuels.			
	<u>Santa Barbara County</u>: Use vessel engines meeting CARB's Tier 2-certified engines or cleaner, accomplished with Tier 2 engines if daily fuel use is 790 gallons or less.		Verify that Tier 2 or cleaner engines are being used. Investigate availability of alternative fuels.			
	<u>Ventura County</u>: Use alternatively fueled construction equipment on site where feasible, such as compressed natural gas, liquefied natural gas, propane or biodiesel.		Investigate availability of alternative fuels.			

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MM BIO-1: Marine Mammal and Sea Turtle Presence – Current Information.	All State waters; prior to commencement of survey operations, the geophysical operator shall: (1) contact the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Long Beach office staff and local whale-watching operations and shall acquire information on the current composition and relative abundance of marine wildlife offshore, and (2) convey sightings data to the vessel operator and crew, survey party chief, and onboard Marine Wildlife Monitors (MWMs) prior to departure. This information will aid the MWMs by providing data on the approximate number and types of organisms that may be in the area.	No adverse effects to marine mammals or sea turtles due to survey activities are observed.	Document contact with appropriate sources. Submit Final Monitoring Report after completion of survey activities.	OGPP permit holder; Inquiry to NOAA and local whale watching operators.	Prior to survey.	5/16/16
MM BIO-2: Marine Wildlife Monitors (MWMs).	Except as provided in section 7(h) of the General Permit, a minimum of two (2) qualified MWMs who are experienced in marine wildlife observations shall be onboard the survey vessel throughout both transit and data collection activities. The specific monitoring, observation, and data collection responsibilities shall be identified in the Marine Wildlife Contingency Plan required as part of all Offshore Geophysical Permit Program permits. Qualifications of proposed MWMs shall be submitted to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and CSLC at least twenty-one (21) days in advance of the survey for their approval by the agencies. Survey operations shall not commence until the CSLC approves the MWMs.	Competent and professional monitoring or marine mammals and sea turtles; compliance with established monitoring policies.	Document contact with and approval by appropriate agencies. Submit Final Monitoring Report after completion of survey activities.	OGPP permit holder.	Prior to survey.	5/16/16
MM BIO-3: Safety Zone Monitoring.	Onboard Marine Wildlife Monitors (MWMs) responsible for observations during vessel transit shall be responsible for monitoring during the survey equipment operations. All visual monitoring shall occur from the highest practical vantage point aboard the survey vessel; binoculars shall be used to observe the surrounding area, as appropriate. The MWMs will survey an area (i.e.; safety or exclusion zone) based on the equipment used, centered on the sound source (i.e., vessel, towfish), throughout time that the survey equipment is operating. Safety zone radial distances, by equipment type, include:	No adverse effects to marine mammals or sea turtles due to survey activities are observed; compliance with established safety zones.	Compliance with permit requirements (observers); compliance with established safety zones. Submit Final Monitoring Report after completion of survey activities.	OGPP permit holder.	Prior to survey.	5/16/16

Mitigation Measure (MM)	Location and Scope of Mitigation	Effectiveness Criteria	Monitoring or Reporting Action	Responsible Party	Timing	Implementation Date(s) and Initials
	<table><tr><th>Equipment Type</th><th>Safety Zone (radius, m)</th></tr><tr><td>Single Beam Echosounder</td><td>50</td></tr><tr><td>Multibeam Echosounder</td><td>500</td></tr><tr><td>Side-Scan Sonar</td><td>600</td></tr><tr><td>Subbottom Profiler</td><td>100</td></tr><tr><td>Boomer System</td><td>100</td></tr></table> If the geophysical survey equipment is operated at or above a frequency of 200 kilohertz (kHz), safety zone monitoring and enforcement is not required; however, if geophysical survey equipment operated at a frequency at or above 200 kHz is used simultaneously with geophysical survey equipment less than 200 kHz, then the safety zone for the equipment less than 200 kHz must be monitored. The onboard MWMs shall have authority to stop operations if a mammal or turtle is observed within the specified safety zone and may be negatively affected by survey activities. The MWMs shall also have authority to recommend continuation (or cessation) of operations during periods of limited visibility (i.e., fog, rain) based on the observed abundance of marine wildlife. Periodic reevaluation of weather conditions and reassessment of the continuation/cessation recommendation shall be completed by the onboard MWMs. During operations, if an animal's actions are observed to be irregular, the monitor shall have authority to recommend that equipment be shut down until the animal moves further away from the sound source. If irregular behavior is observed, the equipment shall be shut-off and will be restarted and ramped-up to full power, as applicable, or will not be started until the animal(s) is/are outside of the safety zone or have not been observed for 15 minutes. For nearshore survey operations utilizing vessels that lack the personnel capacity to hold two (2) MWMs aboard during survey operations, at least twenty-one (21) days prior to the commencement of survey activities, the Permittee may petition the CSLC to conduct survey operations with one (1) MWM aboard. The CSLC will consider such authorization on a case-by-case basis and					5/6/16

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	factors the CSLC will consider will include the timing, type, and location of the survey, the size of the vessel, and the availability of alternate vessels for conducting the proposed survey. CSLC authorizations under this subsection will be limited to individual surveys and under any such authorization; the Permittee shall update the MWCP to reflect how survey operations will occur under the authorization.					
MM BIO-4: Limits on Nighttime OGPP Surveys.	All State waters; nighttime survey operations are prohibited under the OGPP, except as provided below. The CSLC will consider the use of single beam echosounders and passive equipment types at night on a case-by-case basis, taking into consideration the equipment specifications, location, timing, and duration of survey activity.	No adverse effects to marine mammals or sea turtles due to survey activities are observed.	Presurvey request for nighttime operations, including equipment specifications and proposed use schedule. Document equipment use. Submit Final Monitoring Report after completion of survey activities.	OGPP permit holder.	Approval required before survey is initiated. Monitoring Report following comple-tion of survey.	5/6/16
MM BIO-5: Soft Start.	All State waters; the survey operator shall use a "soft start" technique at the beginning of survey activities each day (or following a shut down) to allow any marine mammal that may be in the immediate area to leave before the sound sources reach full energy. Surveys shall not commence at nighttime or when the safety zone cannot be effectively monitored. Operators shall initiate each piece of equipment at the lowest practical sound level, increasing output in such a manner as to increase in steps not exceeding approximately 6 decibels (dB) per 5-minute period. During ramp-up, the Marine Wildlife Monitors (MWMs) shall monitor the safety zone. If marine mammals are sighted within or about to enter the safety zone, a power-down or shut down shall be implemented as though the equipment was operating at full power. Initiation of ramp-up procedures from shut down requires that the MWMs be able to visually observe the full safety zone.	No adverse effects to marine mammals or sea turtles due to survey activities are observed.	Compliance with permit requirements (observers); compliance with safe start procedures. Submit Final Monitoring Report after completion of survey activities.	OGPP permit holder.	Imme-diately prior to survey.	5/31/16

Mitigation Measure (MM)	Location and Scope of Mitigation	Effectiveness Criteria	Monitoring or Reporting Action	Responsible Party	Timing	Implementation Date(s) and Initials
MM BIO-6: Practical Limitations on Equipment Use and Adherence to Equipment Manufacturer's Routine Maintenance Schedule.	All State waters; geophysical operators shall follow, to the maximum extent possible, the guidelines of Zykov (2013) as they pertain to the use of subbottom profilers and side-scan sonar, including: • Using the highest frequency band possible for the subbottom profiler; • Using the shortest possible pulse length; and • Lowering the pulse rate (pings per second) as much as feasible. Geophysical operators shall consider the potential applicability of these measures to other equipment types (e.g., boomer). Permit holders will conduct routine inspection and maintenance of acoustic-generating equipment to ensure that low energy geophysical equipment used during permitted survey activities remains in proper working order and within manufacturer's equipment specifications. Verification of the date and occurrence of such equipment inspection and maintenance shall be provided in the required presurvey notification to CSLC.	No adverse effects to marine mammals or sea turtles due to survey activities are observed.	Document initial and during survey equipment settings. Submit Final Monitoring Report after completion of survey activities.	OGPP permit holder.	Imme-diately prior to and during survey.	5/31/16
MM BIO-7: Avoidance of Pinniped Haul-Out Sites.	The Marine Wildlife Contingency Plan (MWCP) developed and implemented for each survey shall include identification of haul-out sites within or immediately adjacent to the proposed survey area. For surveys within 300 meters (m) of a haul-out site, the MWCP shall further require that: • The survey vessel shall not approach within 91 m of a haul-out site, consistent with National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) guidelines; • Survey activity close to haul-out sites shall be conducted in an expedited manner to minimize the potential for disturbance of pinnipeds on land; and • Marine Wildlife Monitors shall monitor pinniped activity onshore as the vessel approaches, observing and reporting on the number of pinnipeds potentially disturbed (e.g., via head lifting, flushing into the water). The purpose of such reporting is to provide CSLC and California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) with information regarding potential disturbance associated with OGPP surveys.	No adverse effects to pinnipeds at haul outs are observed.	Document pinniped reactions to vessel presence and equipment use. Submit Final Monitoring Report after completion of survey activities.	OGPP permit holder.	Monitoring Report following comple-tion of survey.	6/1/16

Mitigation Measure (MM)	Location and Scope of Mitigation	Effectiveness Criteria	Monitoring or Reporting Action	Responsible Party	Timing	Implementation Date(s) and Initials
MM BIO-8: Reporting Requirements – Collision.	All State waters; if a collision with marine mammal or reptile occurs, the vessel operator shall document the conditions under which the accident occurred, including the following: • Vessel location (latitude, longitude) when the collision occurred; • Date and time of collision; • Speed and heading of the vessel at the time of collision; • Observation conditions (e.g., wind speed and direction, swell height, visibility in miles or kilometers, and presence of rain or fog) at the time of collision; • Species of marine wildlife contacted (if known); • Whether an observer was monitoring marine wildlife at the time of collision; and, • Name of vessel, vessel owner/operator, and captain officer in charge of the vessel at time of collision. After a collision, the vessel shall stop, if safe to do so; however, the vessel is not obligated to stand by and may proceed after confirming that it will not further damage the animal by doing so. The vessel will then immediately communicate by radio or telephone all details to the vessel's base of operations, and shall immediately report the incident. Consistent with Marine Mammal Protection Act requirements, the vessel's base of operations or, if an onboard telephone is available, the vessel captain him/herself, will then immediately call the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Stranding Coordinator to report the collision and follow any subsequent instructions. From the report, the Stranding Coordinator will coordinate subsequent action, including enlisting the aid of marine mammal rescue organizations, if appropriate. From the vessel's base of operations, a telephone call will be placed to the Stranding Coordinator, NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), Southwest Region, Long Beach, to obtain instructions. Although NOAA has primary responsibility for marine mammals in both State and Federal waters, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) will also be advised that an incident has occurred in State waters affecting a protected species.	No adverse effects to marine mammals or sea turtles due to survey activities are observed.	Submit Final Monitoring Report after completion of survey activities.	OGPP permit holder.	Monitoring Report following comple-tion of survey.	6/1/16

Mitigation Measure (MM)	Location and Scope of Mitigation	Effectiveness Criteria	Monitoring or Reporting Action	Responsible Party	Timing	Implementation Date(s) and Initials
MM BIO-9: Limitations on Survey Operations in Select Marine Protected Areas (MPAs).	All MPAs; prior to commencing survey activities, geophysical operators shall coordinate with the CLSC, California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), and any other appropriate permitting agency regarding proposed operations within MPAs. The scope and purpose of each survey proposed within a MPA shall be defined by the permit holder, and the applicability of the survey to the allowable MPA activities shall be delineated by the permit holder. If deemed necessary by CDFW, geophysical operators will pursue a scientific collecting permit, or other appropriate authorization, to secure approval to work within a MPA, and shall provide a copy of such authorization to the CSLC as part of the required presurvey notification to CSLC. CSLC, CDFW, and/or other permitting agencies may impose further restrictions on survey activities as conditions of approval.	No adverse effects to MPA resources due to survey activities are observed.	Monitor reactions of wildlife to survey operations; report on shutdown conditions and survey restart. Submit Final Monitoring Report after completion of survey activities.	OGPP permit holder; survey permitted by CDFW.	Prior to survey.	5/6/16
MM HAZ-1: Oil Spill Contingency Plan (OSCP) Required Information.	Permittees shall develop and submit to CSLC staff for review and approval an OSCP that addresses accidental releases of petroleum and/or non-petroleum products during survey operations. Permittees' OSCPs shall include the following information for each vessel to be involved with the survey: • Specific steps to be taken in the event of a spill, including notification names, phone numbers, and locations of: (1) nearby emergency medical facilities, and (2) wildlife rescue/response organizations (e.g., Oiled Wildlife Care Network); • Description of crew training and equipment testing procedures; and • Description, quantities, and location of spill response equipment onboard the vessel.	Reduction in the potential for an accidental spill. Proper and timely response and notification of responsible parties in the event of a spill.	Documentation of proper spill training. Notification of responsible parties in the event of a spill.	OGPP permit holder and contract vessel operator.	Prior to survey.	5/6/16
MM HAZ-2: Vessel fueling restrictions.	Vessel fueling shall only occur at an approved docking facility. No cross vessel fueling shall be allowed.	Reduction in the potential for an accidental spill.	Documentation of fueling activities.	Contract vessel operator.	Following survey.	6/1/16
MM HAZ-3: OSCP equipment and supplies.	Onboard spill response equipment and supplies shall be sufficient to contain and recover the worst-case scenario spill of petroleum products as outlined in the OSCP.	Proper and timely response in the event of a spill.	Notification to CSLC of onboard spill response equipment/supplies inventory, verify	Contract vessel operator.	Prior to survey.	5/6/16

Mitigation Measure (MM)	Location and Scope of Mitigation	Effectiveness Criteria	Monitoring or Reporting Action	Responsible Party	Timing	Implementation Date(s) and Initials
			ability to respond to worst-case spill.			
MM HAZ-1: Oil Spill Contingency Plan (OSCP) Required Information.	Outlined under **Hazards and Hazardous Materials** (above)					
MM HAZ-2: Vessel fueling restrictions.	Outlined under **Hazards and Hazardous Materials** (above)					
MM HAZ-3: OSCP equipment and supplies.	Outlined under **Hazards and Hazardous Materials** (above)					
MM BIO-9: Limitations on Survey Operations in Select MPAs.	Outlined under **Biological Resources** (above)					
MM REC-1: U.S. Coast Guard (USCG), Harbormaster, and Dive Shop Operator Notification.	All California waters where recreational diving may occur; as a survey permit condition, the CSLC shall require Permittees to provide the USCG with survey details, including information on vessel types, survey locations, times, contact information, and other details of activities that may pose a hazard to divers so that USCG can include the information in the Local Notice to Mariners, advising vessels to avoid potential hazards near survey areas. Furthermore, at least twenty-one (21) days in advance of in-water activities, Permittees shall: (1) post such notices in the harbormasters' offices of regional harbors; and (2) notify operators of dive shops in coastal locations adjacent to the proposed offshore survey operations.	No adverse effects to recreational divers from survey operations.	Notify the USCG, local harbormasters, and local dive shops of planned survey activity. Submit Final Monitoring Report after completion of survey activities.	OGPP permit holder.	Prior to survey.	5/6/16

Mitigation Measure (MM)	Location and Scope of Mitigation	Effectiveness Criteria	Monitoring or Reporting Action	Responsible Party	Timing	Implementation Date(s) and Initials
MM FISH-1: U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) and Harbormaster Notification.	All California waters; as a survey permit condition, the CSLC shall require Permittees to provide the USCG with survey details, including information on vessel types, survey locations, times, contact information, and other details of activities that may pose a hazard to mariners and fishers so that USCG can include the information in the Local Notice to Mariners, advising vessels to avoid potential hazards near survey areas. Furthermore, at least twenty-one (21) days in advance of in-water activities, Permittees shall post such notices in the harbormasters' offices of regional harbors.	No adverse effects to commercial fishing gear in place.	Notify the USCG and local harbormasters of planned survey activity. Submit Final Monitoring Report after completion of survey activities.	OGPP permit holder.	Prior to survey.	5/6/16
MM FISH-2: Minimize Interaction with Fishing Gear.	To minimize interaction with fishing gear that may be present within a survey area: (1) the geophysical vessel (or designated vessel) shall traverse the proposed survey corridor prior to commencing survey operations to note and record the presence, type, and location of deployed fishing gear (i.e., buoys); (2) no survey lines within 30 m (100 feet) of observed fishing gear shall be conducted. The survey crew shall not remove or relocate any fishing gear; removal or relocation shall only be accomplished by the owner of the gear upon notification by the survey operator of the potential conflict.	No adverse effects to commercial fishing gear in place.	Visually observe the survey area for commercial fishing gear. Notify the gear owner and request relocation of gear outside survey area. Submit Final Monitoring Report after completion of survey activities.	OGPP permit holder.	Immediately prior to survey (prior to each survey day).	5/31/16 6/1/16
MM FISH-1: USCG and Harbormaster Notification.	Outlined under **Commercial and Recreational Fisheries** (above)					

Acronyms/Abbreviations: CARB = California Air Resources Board; CDFW = California Department of Fish and Wildlife; CSLC = California State Lands Commission; dB = decibels; kHz = kilohertz; MPA = Marine Protected Area; MWCP = Marine Wildlife Contingency Plan; MWM = Marine Wildlife Monitor; m= meter(s); NOAA = National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration; NO_x = Nitrogen Oxide; OGPP = Offshore Geophysical Permit Program; OSCP = Oil Spill Contingency Plan; USCG = U.S. Coast Guard